



County of Erie

JOEL A. GIAMBRA
County Executive

MICHAEL V. WALTERS
Commissioner

JAMES M. McCULLOUGH
Deputy Commissioner
Fire Safety

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Division of Fire Safety
3359 Broadway – Cheektowaga NY 14227
716/681-7111 – FAX/681-3645
www.erie.gov/fire

EARL R. SCHMITTENDORF
Assistant Fire Coordinator

ERIE COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE CITIZENS FIRE/RESCUE/EMS ACADEMY

Introduction:

One of the objectives of the Erie County Fire Safety Recruitment and Retention Program is to offer an outreach program that:

- Increases the public's understanding of the volunteer fire service – its history and operations
- Provides the training and hands-on skills to citizens helping them to make their communities safer places to live, work and play
- Provides the host department(s) with a captive audience from which to identify and recruit potential candidates for membership

In general, create program deliverables that free up and/or give back time to the volunteers – allowing them to focus on what they do best – fighting fires and saving lives.

This objective is being delivered in the form of a Citizens Fire/Rescue/EMS Academy.

The program is divided into two integral parts, the first part instructing citizens on things they can do by and for themselves, and the second teaching them how the volunteer fire service does things.

Part 1 of the academy focuses on empowering citizens with the knowledge and confidence to perform basic life safety and prevention skills. Additionally, citizens will be introduced to the history and organization of the volunteer fire service in Erie County.

The second part of the academy training provides citizens with a greater understanding of how the volunteer fire service is structured, how it operates and how they can participate. These sessions offer the participants opportunities to gain hands-on experience in fire fighting, rescue and emergency medical services.

Completion of both phases of the Citizens Academy will provide participants with a thorough understanding and appreciation for the volunteer fire service and expose the fire service to potential recruits.



County of Erie

JOEL A. GIAMBRA
County Executive

MICHAEL V. WALTERS
Commissioner

JAMES M. McCULLOUGH
Deputy Commissioner
Fire Safety

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Division of Fire Safety
3359 Broadway – Cheektowaga NY 14227
716/681-7111 – FAX/681-3645
www.erie.gov/fire

EARL R. SCHMITTENDORF
Assistant Fire Coordinator

ERIE COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE FIRE – RESCUE – EMS CITIZENS ACADEMY

Part 1 – Ten (10) Hours

Purpose:

Introduce interested citizens to the fire and emergency medical services delivery system in Erie County. Provide a comprehensive explanation of the fire and EMS system through hands-on equipment demonstrations, classroom discussions and multi-media presentations.

Provide citizens with the hands-on skills and training in effective life safety practices including fire prevention, mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, hand-held fire extinguisher use, smoke, heat and carbon monoxide detector selection and use; and basic safety.

Goal:

Provide a better understanding of volunteer fire and emergency medical service agencies, the services they provide and the role each citizen has in making the system work.

Create safer households and communities by providing basic fire and life safety awareness information for citizens to follow.

Give citizens basic fire fighting and life saving skills and the confidence to effectively react to emergencies.

Part 2 – Nine (9) Hours

Purpose:

Expand on the lessons learned in Part 1 by providing interested citizens with a hands-on introduction to the skills, knowledge and training necessary to deliver fire protection and emergency medical services in Erie County.

Goal:

Provide participants with an opportunity to:

- Interact with the volunteers that serve their community
- Touch and use the tools of the trade
- “Try-out” the volunteer fire service with no formal obligation

Provide the host department(s) with an opportunity to identify and recruit qualified, well informed potential candidates who will remain with the fire service for a long-term commitment.

Resources and acknowledgements:

Recruiting, Training and Maintaining Volunteer Firefighters ©1998 Emergency Services Consulting Group – Third Edition

Urban Survival ©1991 City of Phoenix Fire Department – First Edition

Fire Power ©1997 National Fire Protection Association

The Erie County Volunteer Fire Service and You ©1999 Adelphia, Erie County Fire Safety

What if no one answered the call? ©1997 Prudential Insurance, National Volunteer Fire Council

ERIE COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE

FIRE

RESCUE

EMS



CITIZENS ACADEMY

Created and Provided by the County of Erie Department of Emergency Services
Divisions of Fire Safety and Emergency Medical Services

ERIE COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE FIRE – RESCUE – EMS CITIZENS ACADEMY



Part 1 - Session 1 –	2 hrs. 15 Min.
Introduction to the Citizens Academy – Part 1	30 min.
• Purpose	5
• Outline	5
• Student Participation	5
• Video: <i>The Erie County Volunteer Fire Service and You</i>	15
Organization	30 min.
• Fire Protection Delivery	10
• County Breakdown (Volunteer vs. Paid)	-
• Structural Breakdown - District vs. Municipal vs. Independent	-
• Department Structure (Administrative and Line Operations)	-
• Authority of the fire department/fire company	5
• Legal Responsibilities and Mission Statement	5
• Emergency Medical Services delivery and organization	10
- BREAK -	10 min.
Local Introduction	30 min.
• Tour of host/local fire department quarters and apparatus	-
• Community Involvement (outline local functions and areas of need for recruits)	-
History of the Volunteer Fire Service	30 min.
• Early beginning	5
• Facts about volunteers and the fire service	5
• Distinguishing Traits of Volunteer Fire Fighters	5
• Why Use Volunteers?	5
• Challenges associated with using volunteers	10
Recap Session 1 and Outline Agenda for Next Session	5 min.

**ERIE COUNTY
VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE
FIRE – RESCUE – EMS
CITIZENS ACADEMY**



Part 1 - Session 2 –	2 hrs. 30 min.
Introduction to Fire Safety	80 min.
• Video: <i>Fire Power</i>	20
• Facts and Myths about Fire Safety and Prevention	10
• Cooking	5
• Electrical	5
• Heating Systems/Fireplaces/Wood Burning Stoves	10
• Flammable and Combustible Liquids Storage	5
• Children and Fire	15
• Senior Citizen Fire Safety Concerns	10
- BREAK -	10 min.
Apparatus and Equipment Demonstrations	40 min.
• Fire Apparatus and Equipment	20
• Rescue Apparatus and Specialized Equipment	20
Life Safety Skills	15 min.
• Pool/Water Safety or Ice/Snow/Holiday Safety (Season Dependent)	5
• Power Lines	5
• Weather Exposure	5
Recap Session 2 and Outline Agenda for Next Session	5 min.

ERIE COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE

FIRE – RESCUE – EMS

CITIZENS ACADEMY



Part 1 - Session 3 –	3 hrs. 5 min.
Introduction to Emergency Medical Services	10 min.
• Video: <i>Don't Guess – Call EMS</i>	5
• When to Dial 911	5
Basic First Aid Skills	10 min.
• What is First Aid?	-
• Bleeding control and treating for shock	5
• First Aid for Burns	-
• Broken bones and immobilization	5
Life Saving Skills	2.5 hrs.
• Saving Choking Victims	-
• Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation	-
- BREAK -	10 min.
• AED Demonstration and Use	-
• Skills Assessment and Certification	-
Recap Session 3 and Outline Agenda for Next Session	5 min.

**ERIE COUNTY
VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE
FIRE – RESCUE – EMS
CITIZENS ACADEMY**



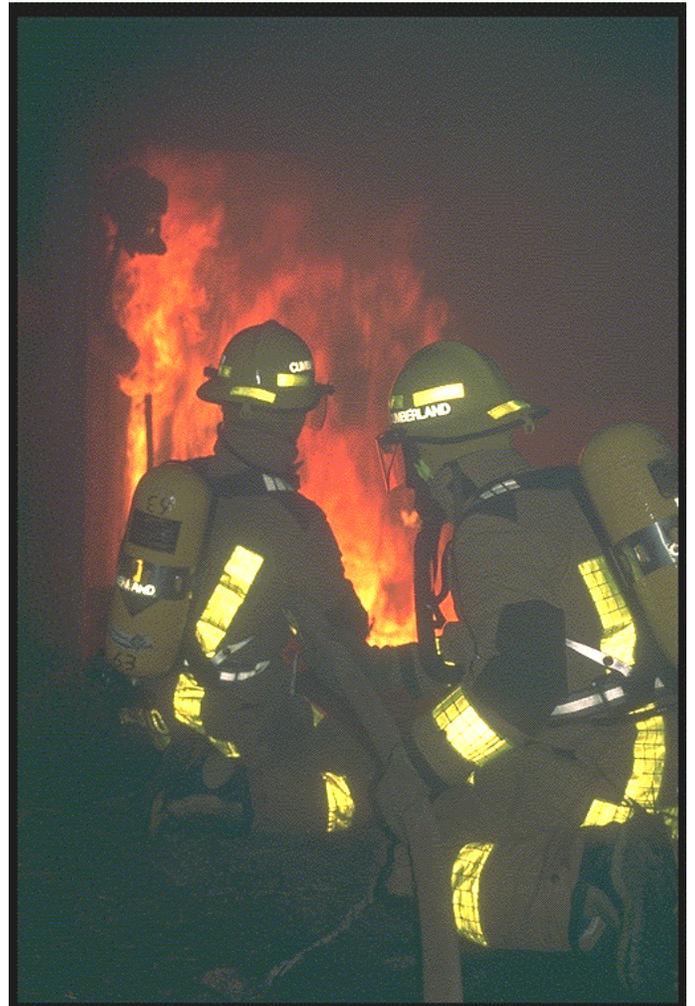
Part 1 - Session 4 –	2 hrs. 40 min.
Apparatus and Equipment Demonstrations	15 min.
• EMS Apparatus and Equipment	15
Carbon Monoxide – The Silent Killer	20 min.
• Introduction and the gas company’s involvement statement	-
• What is Carbon Monoxide (CO)?	-
• Sources and Symptoms of CO Poisoning	-
• Facts about CO and who reacts to CO Exposure?	-
• What to look for and who to call for help ...	-
• What you can do ...	-
• CO Detectors	-
• Summary	-
Smoke & Heat Detectors	25 min.
• Types	5
• Placement, Maintenance and Response to Activation	10
• E.D.I.T.H.	10
- BREAK -	10 min.
Hand-held Fire Extinguishers	55 min.
• Types and Application	10
• Fight or Flight?	5
• Location and maintenance	5
• Hands-on Demonstration	35
Recap Sessions 1-4 and Outline Next Level of the Citizen’s Academy	20 min.
Citizens Academy Part 1 Graduation Ceremony	15 min.

**ERIE COUNTY
VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE
FIRE – RESCUE – EMS
CITIZENS ACADEMY**



Part 2 - Session 1 –	2 hrs. 25 Min.
Introduction to the Citizens Academy – Level 2	30 min.
• Purpose	5
• Outline	5
• Student Participation and Safety	5
• Video: <i>What if No One Answered the Call</i>	15
Local Introduction	15 min.
• Tour of host/local fire department quarters and apparatus	-
• Community Involvement (outline local functions and areas of need for recruits)	-
- BREAK -	10 min.
Organization	10 min.
• Department Structure (Line Operations Chain of Command)	5
• Job Descriptions (Line Operations)	5
The Tasks at Hand	30 min.
• Overview of Fire, Rescue and EMS Operations	30
Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)	15 min.
• The Importance of PPE	5
• Turnout Gear Donning Demonstration and Practice	10
Ride-Along	30 min.
• District Tour	30
Recap Session 1 and Outline Agenda for Next Session	5 min.

**ERIE COUNTY
VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE
FIRE – RESCUE – EMS
CITIZENS ACADEMY**



Part 2 - Session 2 –	2 hrs. 15 Min.
The Basics	60 min.
• Firefighter Safety	10
• Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)	15
• Hydrant Hookup	10
• Hose Lines	15
• Riding Assignments and Teamwork	10
- BREAK -	10 min.
The Big One	60 min.
• Firefighting/Smokehouse Evolution	45
• Cleanup and Critique	15
Recap Session 2 and Outline Agenda for Next Session	5 min.

ERIE COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE

FIRE – RESCUE – EMS CITIZENS ACADEMY



Part 2 - Session 3 –	2 hrs. 15 Min.
What Volunteering has to Offer	30 min.
• Career Training	10
• Service Award Programs (LOSAP)	5
• Camaraderie and Family Activities	5
• Stress Management	5
• Insurance	5
EMS in the Streets	60 min.
• EMS Safety	5
• Primary/Secondary Surveys (A-B-C)	10
• Basic Life Support	20
• Advanced Life Support	20
• Teamwork	5
- BREAK -	10 min.
The Big One	30 min.
• Trauma/Mega Code Evolution	20
• Cleanup and Critique	10
Recap Session 3 and Outline Agenda for Next Session	5 min.

**ERIE COUNTY
VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE
FIRE – RESCUE – EMS
CITIZENS ACADEMY**



Part 2 - Session 4 –	2 hrs. 35 Min.
To the Rescue	50 min.
• Rescue Safety	5
• Hand Tools	10
• Extrication Tools	15
• Technical Rescue	10
• Specialized Rescue	5
• Teamwork	5
- BREAK -	10 min.
The Big One	50 min.
• Auto Extrication Evolution	40
• Cleanup and Critique	10
Recap Sessions 1-4	10 min.
Local Summary and Call to Action	10 min.
Citizens Academy Part 2 Graduation Ceremony	25 min.